

The Hartford News

January 16 – 22, 2020



NEWS BRIEFS

Hartford NEXT Meets TONIGHT

Hartford NEXT, Inc's January meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2020 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at 79 Van Block Ave, Hartford. The meeting will include a community conversation to provide the City of Hartford Central Grants team with suggestions on the Housing, Community Development and Economic Development programs should be prioritized for funding from Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grants. Additionally, a representative from Liberty Bank will be present to discuss the bank's 2019 settlement of a 2018 lawsuit alleging discriminatory lending practices to consumers living in predominately Latino and African-American neighborhoods and the resulting impact/benefits to Hartford residents. Hartford NEXT Inc. is the Coalition of Hartford's Neighborhood Revitalization Zones (NRZs). HNXT's monthly meetings are held on the Third (3rd) Thursday of each month. For more information about Hartford NEXT, the meeting or Hartford's NRZ's, please contact Jeremy Baver at jebaver@hartfordnext.org.

City of Hartford Career Fair January 18

On Saturday, January 18, the City of Hartford will host a Career Fair from 11 am - 2 pm at City Hall, 550 Main Street, Downtown Hartford. Representatives from numerous city departments, including Police & Fire Departments, Development Services, Finance, Public Works, Human Resources, and Health & Human Services, Management & Budget, will be on hand to discuss career opportunities.

Night Fall Movie to be Shown Jan. 18

Did you miss Night Fall in Colt Park? Want to see it again? Join us for a FREE evening of fun and watch the movie of the Night Fall 2019 performance on Saturday, January 18th at Christ Church Hall, 45 Church Street in Downtown Hartford. Arrive at 6:00 pm for refreshments, mingling and a chance to win fantastic prizes! Movie starts at 6:30 pm sharp followed by a brief discussion with the artists of Night Fall. Snacks and beverages will be available for purchase. If you would like to make a gift to Night Fall, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, you

Continued on page 6



Appeal for Victims of Puerto Rican Earthquake

On Friday, January 10, numerous Connecticut leaders gathered at Hartford City Hall to launch a massive fundraising drive for victims of the 6.4-magnitude earthquake that struck Puerto Rico on Tuesday, January 7. Among the speakers were Samuel Vega (center), President of the CICD-Puerto Rican Parade, which is coordinating a fundraising drive in Connecticut. See page 3 for a letter from the CICD on the fundraising effort. To make a donation, go to: CThelpsPR.org. The January 7 quake displaced an estimated 2,000 people and left millions without power. It was the most powerful in a series of tremors that have been shaking the island for weeks. Among the other speakers at Friday's press conference were Governor Ned Lamont, U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, Mayor Luke Bronin and Hartford City Councilwoman Maly Rosado. (Hart photo)

Hartford...Once Upon a Time



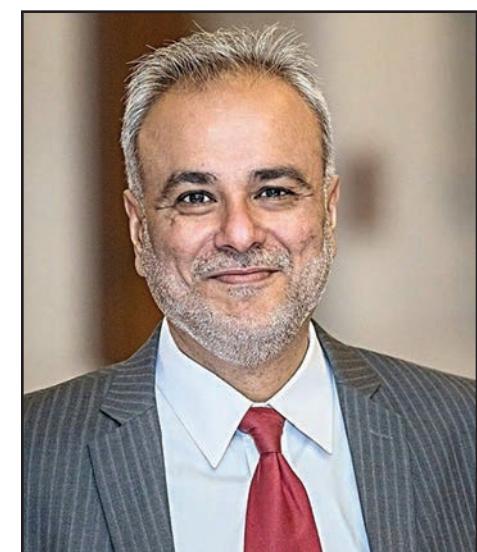
On the last day of 1954, the old Cathedral of Saint Joseph on Farmington Avenue was destroyed by one of the biggest fires in Hartford history. Completed in 1892, the original cathedral had twin steeples, a wooden ceiling made from wood from every country on earth, a rotunda decorated with over \$100,000 worth of gold leaf and 72 stained glass windows. But the Hartford Archdiocese soon started work on the present cathedral, which was completed in 1962. During construction, Sunday masses were held at the Aetna Theater across the street. The steeple of the current cathedral rises 284 feet above Farmington Avenue and its massive bronze doors weigh over five tons each. (Photo courtesy of Lynne Davis)

Health and Homelessness: Cause and Effect

State Senator and physician Saud Anwar makes the connection clear

BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

"No society can survive like this." Saud Anwar speaks these words with the quiet yet passionate sincerity that has been a hallmark of his advocacy for the rights of Connecticut's homeless population to have access to stable and secure housing. "Where is our compassion and our empathy? What are our values?" The State Senator, who is also a pulmonary, critical care, and occupational & environmental medicine physician, and the former Mayor of South Windsor feels he has conclusively drawn the connection between the lack of medical care—both physical and mental—and the ever-growing epidemic of homelessness in Connecticut and the entire United States.



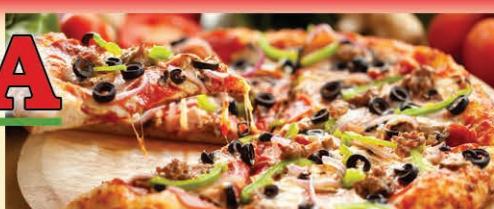
State Senator Saud Anwar

The first thing one notices upon entering Anwar's office on the third floor of the Legislative Office Building is a half-wall of whiteboards densely covered with the senator's ideas and initiatives. Topics ranging through homelessness, education, judicial, human services, veterans and more contain dozens of entries, indicated by additions of arrows, circles, and underlines. "Whenever I see what needs to be done", said Anwar, "I put them down." Asked how he made the transition from a long and ongoing medical career to the world of politics, he connected the dots: "I saw politics as an extension of my practice of medicine. If you can change from the individual to a town, then you can start looking at bigger change" As a Town Councilor and then Mayor of South Windsor he accomplished a lot. "During my four years leading the town, we had the fastest economic growth South Windsor had ever seen. Taxes held steady, and where other

Continued on page 4

EMPIRE PIZZA

861 New Britain Avenue Hartford, CT
860-953-0596 • 860-953-6951



We Deliver!!! (\$10 minimum order)
OPEN 7 DAYS Mon-Wed, 10:30 am - 11:00 pm;
Thu-Sat, 10:30 am - 12:30 am, Sunday, 11 am - 11 pm
www.EmpirePizzaHouseCT.com • Fax: 860-953-7788
BEER • TV • CATERING AVAILABLE

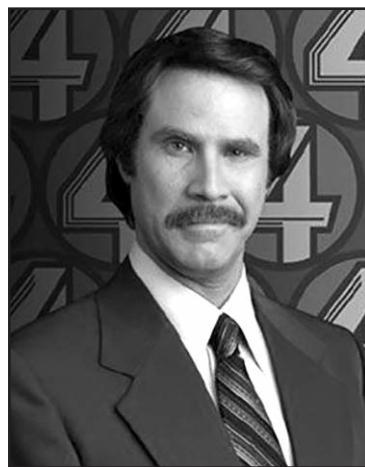
EVERY SUNDAY!!! BUY ANY KIND LARGE PIZZA AND GET A SMALL CHEESE PIZZA FREE. PICK UP ONLY.

Stay Classy, Hartford!

City Council Democrats set the tone for the next four years

COMMENTARY BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

With less than two weeks on the job, Hartford's new—but not yet improved—Court of Common Council is already under the microscope of public opinion, and it ain't pretty. If this were a Hollywood film, it would fall under "dark comedy". That's one of my favorite genres and I can enjoy it and laugh by telling myself "It's only a movie". But when it's real life and involves the folks who were elected to represent the citizens, I can only cast a vote of "no confidence". To begin with, almost no one wanted the job of Council President, and the ones that did were not wanted by the powers-that-be. Leadership skills are not a pre-requisite for the job. In an ironic twist, the ability to follow orders—without question—is, and the choice was made. Next up was the naming of Majority and Minority party leaders. It's been tradition that each party has chosen its own leader by vote from its own membership. But inexplicably—at least to the general public—the Democrats on council chose Clarke by "Friendly Amendment Accepted", but the six Democrats (and the sole member of the so-called "Hartford Party"—



another minority, but in name only abstained from the vote to name WFP member Wildaliz Bermudez Minority leader, leaving the Minority rudderless. This was a move nearly breathtaking in its stupidity and arrogance, and stinking of ill will. Bermudez and the party-of-one—whom I'll hereafter refer to as the "7th Democrat"—are related by marriage, which should make for some interesting dinner table conversation at family gatherings. Former three-term councilor Larry Deutsch said "The process has been twisted. This Majority has decided it can appoint and overrule the other

party as to who leads the Minority. There are those who have sought to eliminate any Minority initiative. Power corrupts absolutely."

Reminiscent of bad blood between middle school cliques, like the popular kids vs. the freaks & geeks, the Majority got together to go over, rewrite, amend, and pass the current council rules as they saw fit. And one of the rules is that at public hearings on proposed resolutions and ordinances, council members will no longer be allowed to ask questions of citizens who voice their support or opposition at the hearing. No, instead the duly elected Majority will sit there with the blank stares of cattle that've been gobsmacked by the electric prod, and further highlight their already ingrained and proven disdain and disinterest for constituent input of any kind. Another ugly incident occurred when the Council President was invested with the power—and possibly by mandate from other entities—to unnecessarily change all the locks on all nine council members' offices. This move cost the taxpayers thousands

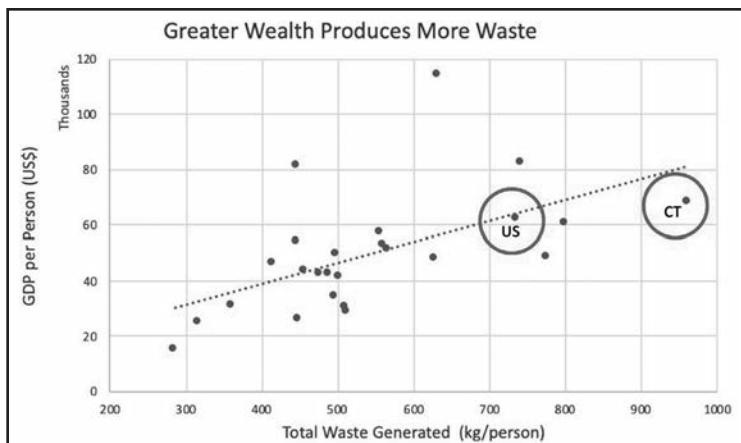
Continued on page 4

Zero Waste or Zero Strategy?

COMMENTARY BY TOM SWARR

In December, 2017, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) selected Sacyr Rooney Recovery Team (SRRT) to partner with the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) in a project to rebuild the trash incinerator in Hartford. This past week MIRA announced at a meeting held at the Capitol that the project would cost \$330 million and without some kind of public support would require tipping fees of \$145/ ton. Tom Kirk, CEO of MIRA acknowledged those tipping fees would likely be unacceptable. While soliciting town interest in the project, MIRA will work with the state legislators to identify alternative revenue streams, aka public subsidies, that can help make tipping fees more competitive with out-of-state landfilling. Public support could be in the form of general obligation bonds, above market rate power purchase agreements for produced electricity, or renewable energy credits for the electricity. None of these options seem likely in the current political environment.

This effectively kicks the prob-



lem back to the state legislators, where it belongs. The idea that MIRA and SRRT could develop a public option for waste disposal without some kind of public support is little more than magical thinking. But it begs the question of whether or not a public option makes sense in the current market. Should we be subsidizing waste disposal to hold down the costs in order to compete with cheap landfill disposal? The chart shows that Connecticut generates a disproportionate amount of waste compared to European countries, or even the U.S. average. Funding this project through revenue bonds will require

a guaranteed revenue stream to service those bonds. A guaranteed revenue stream will depend on a guaranteed stream of waste. That means Connecticut will be locked into feeding the trash plant for the next 30 years to pay off the bonds.

At the meeting, Mayor Luke Bronin challenged the notion that our only choices were to rebuild the trash plant or ship to out-of-state landfills. Other cities and countries have adopted policies to dramatically reduce waste generation and increase recovery of materials for recycling. For example, if Connecticut could match the per-

Continued on page 8

THE HARTFORD NEWS

Publishers Jon Harden
..... Lynne Lumsden

Managing Editor Andy Hart
Advertising Manager Josephine Finocchiaro
Copy Editor/Staff Writer...Anne Goshdigian
Spanish Editor Wilfredo Ayala
Contributing Writers.....Mike McGarry
.....David Samuels
.....Donna Swarr
.....Tom Swarr

Published by Southside Media
563 Franklin Ave., Hartford, CT 06114
(860) 296-6128 FAX 866-875-3785 • E-Mail:
hartfordnews@aol.com

The Hartford News is published weekly on Thursday by Gamut Publishing, Inc. The publisher does not assume responsibility for errors, omissions, and changes in advertising or editorial material. Advertising rates are available upon request. Deadlines: Advertisements, news releases and articles must be submitted by 5 pm on Monday for publication on Thursday. Rights and Permissions: The entire contents of the Hartford News are copyright 2006 by Gamut Publishing, and no portion may be reproduced in whole or in part by any means without specific written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved. Letters and Submissions: Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. Writers must sign their names and must give an address and a telephone number for verification, although neither address or telephone number will be published. Unsolicited submissions are welcome but must be accompanied with an SASE if return is desired.



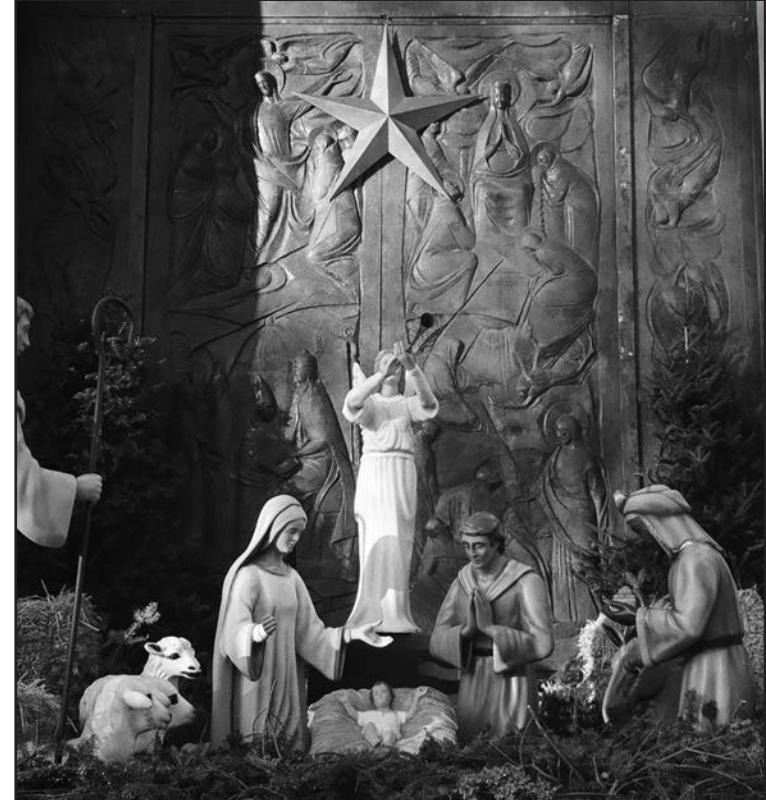
Politically Speaking

A Fresh Look at Issues
Facing our Region & State

BY MIKE MCGARRY

Miracle on the Avenue

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph Knights of Columbus faced a daunting task last Sunday: taking down the massive creche display in front of the church and storing all 22 figures for the next year.



age area. Now these figures are quite large; moving the camel alone requires four people. Also, ten bales of hay and a truck-load of greens had to be moved to the Niles Street Community Garden.

So, what was the problem? Well, many of the stalwart knights were indisposed due to illness, travel, personal matters, etc. And the few guys left were faced with moving all the figures down a flight of stairs and then up three more flights to the stor-

But, as we contemplated the task before us, all of a sudden, a team of a half dozen knights, several parishioners and even a fellow passing by on his bike, was formed to move the

Continued on page 6

In My Opinion

Juking the Stats: Crime in Hartford

BY DAVID SAMUELS

The City of Hartford is reporting that the crime rate for 2019 was down, and the number of murders were "slightly below average". The total number of homicides last year was 26, an increase from 23 in 2018. The classic HBO series *The Wire* exposed how politicians and institutions cook the books, to give the people the illusion of progress. One episode features the character Roland "Prez" Pryzbylewski, a former Baltimore police officer who becomes a city school teacher, getting a quick education on the similarity between standardized testing and the law enforcement practice of distorting crime statistics.

Prez and other teachers are instructed by school administrators to place emphasis on preparing their students for testing, at the expense of actually teaching them. Prez asks a veteran teacher how making testing a priority helps the students. The teacher explains to Prez that standardized testing has nothing to do with assessing students, it's about assessing the teachers. If the test scores go up, the schools can say they're making

progress. If the scores go down, they can't. Prez points out that he saw this same numbers game while he was a cop, an institutional practice known as juking the stats. Author Peter Moskos analyzed the manipulation of crime stats in his book *Cop in the Hood*.

"A recent report of retired New York City police officers warns that the NYPD is playing fast and loose with the numbers. Knowing when and where crimes occur is essential to good policing and Compstat, a system of crime-data analysis created in 1994, played a large role in bringing down crime in New York City. But ever since, numbers have ruled the NYPD's roost. If crime numbers are not down, precinct commanding officers need numbers to show they're doing something—something quantifiable.

"In the police world, two statistical categories are important: Part I felony crimes reported to the FBI's Uniform Crime Statistics and internal measures of 'productivity,' namely arrests, citations, and summonses. There are ways to play

Continued on page 6

Interval House Launches New Program for Hartford Immigrants Grappling with Domestic Violence

Interval House, the State's largest domestic violence intervention and prevention organization, is building on its services for immigrants dealing with domestic violence.

Thanks to a new federally funded grant, Interval House will now operate, "Project: Hope Beyond Fear." Hope Beyond Fear is the first program of its kind in the State and is focused on providing comprehensive domestic violence advocacy for immigrants and refugees living in the City of Hartford. The program increases Interval House's capacity to respond to the unique needs of immigrant victims, as well as the stark cultural differences that exist among the immigrant community regarding violence against women.

"This new program allows us to double down on our mission to better serve a segment of our community that is critically underserved when it comes to domestic violence," said Mary-Jane Foster, Interval House's President and CEO. "Far too many times a person's immigration status will prevent them from seeking help because they fear deportation or other immigration-related reprisals."

Hope Beyond Fear will offer special intervention and support services by two state-certified and specially trained, bilingual advocates. The program also brings a new

coordinator tasked with targeted community outreach and devoted to fostering special partnerships with other nonprofit agencies that offer immigration services. The Hartford Public Library and the Connecticut Institute for Refugee and Immigrants (CIRI) have agreed to team up with Interval House on the project.

"Hope Beyond Fear is a terrific collaboration and enhancement of the services we offer our clients," said Alicia Kinsman, CIRI Interim President & CEO. "Immigrants and refugees face myriad hardships and obstacles on a daily basis -- ensuring there is support for them in dealing with issues of domestic violence is much needed."

"Our libraries have always been havens for learning and outreach, so collaborating with Interval House on this issue is another way the Hartford Public Library system can be proactive in the community on a very important issue and problem," said Bridget Quinn-Carey, CEO of the Hartford Public Library.

According to national statistics and studies, a person's immigration status provides abusers additional ways to exert power and control over victims, such as:

- Isolating victims by preventing them from learning English or communicating with friends,

family or peers from their home countries;

- Threatening victims with deportation or withdrawal of petitions for legal status;
- Intimidating victims by destroying legal documents such as passports, resident cards, health insurance or driver's licenses;
- Manipulating victims by withdrawing or not filing papers for residency, or implying the victim will lose citizenship or residency if they report or seek help;
- Withholding financial support or threatening to interfere with a victim's employment by falsely reporting his/her status to an employer; and
- Using children as pawns by threatening to harm them or have them taken away if authorities are contacted.

Immigrants living in the City of Hartford who need of domestic violence services or have questions about Hope Beyond Fear may call (860) 241-5114, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Around-the-clock help is available through the 24-hour hotline at (888) 774-2900. If someone is experiencing an emergency, they should call 911.

Letter to the Editor

Please Help Victims of Recent Earthquakes in Puerto Rico

Dear friends, family and community,

As everyone knows, the recent earthquakes in Puerto Rico have caused an emergency situation in the south and southwest areas of the island.

As an act of solidarity and public service to help our brothers and sisters on the island, the CICD Puerto Rican Parade will act as a fiduciary for monetary collections and subsequent payment for goods & services for essential items in the most affected municipalities. The following partners will be working with us in Connecticut and in Puerto Rico, in order to help coordinate and identify the intended recipients. Our relief partners are: City of Hartford Council President, Maly Rosado; Dressler Law; CICD PR Parade, Inc.; The Latino Way Marketing; Lion's Club CT and PR; Mayor of Cayey, Puerto Rico – Hon. Rolando Ortiz; Connecting Paths of Puerto Rico; Colegio de Profesionales de Enfermeras y Enfermeros de Puerto Rico; Ponce Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS).

We are now receiving donations through our website CThelpsPR.org, which will serve as our Collection Center in this effort.

The CICD will be responsible for the collection, coordination and transfer of funds to the island, as well as the distribution of the funds to the intended recipients.

We are mounting an awareness campaign, with our community partners Maly Rosado, City of Hartford Council President, Dressler Law and The Latino Way Marketing, to inform the public and urge all who can contribute, to do so.

CT JUNTOS POR PUERTO RICO! CT TOGETHER FOR PUERTO RICO!

Samuel Vega, President
CICD-Puerto Rican Parade

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Lest We Forget, Lest We Forget

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the ultimate profound Baptist minister and civil rights pioneer, displayed a unique passion for righteousness, truthfulness, virtue and equality for all mankind. Dr. King bravely led his flock during the Civil Rights Movement, from 1955 until his untimely assassination in 1968. His assassination happened in Memphis, Tennessee, where he had gone to support striking sanitation workers.

Dr. King Was A Drum Major for Peace

Dr. King felt that black people in America were being treated unfairly. The spark that set off the Civil Rights Movement was the arrest of Rosa Parks in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955. Parks had refused to give up her seat to a white man. King and others organized a boycott of the bus service. The boycott lasted over a year, but finally the buses were desegregated. However, this was just the beginning. Dr. King continued the fight against the many other forms of racial discrimination existing in America, and pressured the federal government to fulfill its promise of "justice for all."

Questions surrounding the assassination of Dr. King continue to this day. James Earl Ray was convicted of the crime, but many still question whether he acted alone and, if he didn't, who and/or what assisted him? The questions gained additional prominence following the grief, frustration and anger that swept the country following King's assassination, including the violence and rioting which broke out in cities across the country, including here in Hartford, Connecticut.

Following Dr. King's assassination, James Earl Ray fled to Canada and then to Britain, where he was arrested and sent back to Tennessee to stand trial. Ray initially confessed to the crime and pleaded guilty to King's assassination, possibly to avoid the death sentence. He later recanted his confession, said he was part of a conspiracy and demanded a new trial. Despite many legal proceedings over the ensuing decades, the full story behind King's assassination remains elusive. Ray died in prison in 1998, after serving 29 years of his 99-year sentence. While in prison, he married a woman named Anna Sandu, but the two were divorced 14 years later. Since many of those involved or allegedly involved in Dr. King's assassination are now dead, it seems as though the questions surrounding it will be left forever unanswered.

In 1983, the federal government made Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day an official U.S. holiday. It is celebrated on the third Monday of January. This year, I plan to celebrate it by listening to my great-granddaughter read the famous speech that Dr. King entitled, "I Have A Dream."

Dr. Jewel M. Ellison



Happy Kwanzaa...and Happy Birthday!

On Friday, December 27, the Sankofa Kuumba Cultural Arts Consortium held one of its many Kwanzaa celebrations, this one at The Village for Families & Children on Albany Avenue. The event also marked the birthday of Sankofa founder and director Sistah Nandi, who is shown here giving a smile to the audience while musician Abu Carter explains the traditions of Kwanzaa. Sankofa also presented Kwanzaa celebrations at the Affordable Child Care Learning Center on Barbour St., Asylum Hill Boys & Girls Club on Sigourney St., Metzner Early Learning Center on Franklin Avenue and Hartford Public Library on Main Street. (Hart photo)

Census Job Fairs January 23 at Three Hartford Public Libraries

Are you interested in a job working to complete the 2020 U.S. Census?

Find out all you need to know on Thursday, January 23. U.S. Census Job Fairs will be held at three Hartford Public Libraries:

- **DOWNTOWN LIBRARY**, 500 Main Street, 860-695-6300, 10 am - 1 pm,
- **BARBOUR LIBRARY**, 261 Barbour Street, 860-695-7400,

12 pm - 4 pm

- **ALBANY LIBRARY**, 1250 Albany Avenue, 860-695-7380, 4 pm - 6 pm

Working for the 2020 U.S. Census provides an hourly pay of \$23.50-\$25.00; flexible hours; weekly paychecks; and paid training.

For more information, or if you need help applying, please call 1-855-JOB-2020.

Book Signing for New UConn Hoops Book

Author Jeff Goldberg will sign copies of his new book, "Unrivaled: UConn, Tennessee and the Twelve Years That Transcended Women's Basketball," on Thursday, January 23, at 5 pm at the UConn Hartford Barnes & Noble Book Store, 18 Front St., Downtown Hartford.

The book details the rivalry between the two schools that dominated women's college basketball and elevated it to a major American sport. The event is free.

HARTFORD MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY EVENTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2020

Harriet Beecher Stowe Center 77 Forest Street, Hartford

The Harriet Beecher Stowe Center (HBSC) will mark Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 20, with several events and activities. The campus is open to the public from 11 am - 4 pm. Everything is free and audiences of all ages are encouraged to participate. Activities include:

- Free house tours all day 11 am - 4 pm:** HBSC will be offering two ways to experience the Harriet Beecher Stowe House including 30-minute guided tours from 11-1:30 pm and Explore at Your Own Pace (also known as self-guided tours) from 2-4 pm.
- Write a Love letter: 11 am - 4 pm:** Drop in the Dining Room of the Day House (for as short or long as you wish!) to write a love letter. All materials will be provided.
- Salon at Stowe 12 - 1 pm:** Join Stowe Center Program Manager Katie Burton and Capital Community College students in the Visitor Center as they discuss current issues and topics of racial injustice and the legacy of King and Stowe. Bag lunch optional.
- Cornbread and Caffeine: 11 am - 4 pm:** Visitors are welcome to share a snack of MLK's favorite food, cornbread, and sip some tea and coffee in the Day House. Come enjoy the architecture and community while supporting the Stowe Center's mission of inspiring us to action.



WE CAN SEE YOUR PET AT NIGHT

PET E.R.



Sunday & Evening Well Care Appointments
Emergencies 24 / 7

860-233-8564
Connecticut Veterinary Center
470 Oakwood Ave
West Hartford, CT
Locally Owned



2 and 3-BR Apartments for Rent

NORTHEND GATEWAY

Great Hartford apartments near Downtown

Come see NorthEnd Gateway at 1450 Main Street. Come view our units with ultra modern energy-efficient appliances, including microwave, oven, dishwasher, refrigerator and washer/dryer included in each apartment. Central AC in each unit. Handicapped units available. Ample on-site parking. INCOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY.

**Call 860-547-1111 or visit us
online at www.carabetta.com**



Clases Gratis de Inglés

Clases Gratis De Inglés De Invierno/Primavera. Niveles Basicos Solamente

- Biblioteca Pública de Hartford, Downtown, 500 Main Street, Hartford
- Clases entre semana comienzan, el 21 de enero, martes, miércoles, y jueves, 9:30 a.m. a 11:30 a.m.
- Clases los sábados comienzan el 8 de febrero, 9:30 a.m. a 12:30 p.m.
- Los estudiantes pueden participar en ambas sesiones: clases entre semana y los sábados *Registración separada es necesaria para cada clase.
- REGISTRACION ES NECESSARIA. Registrese En Persona. Miércoles, jueves, o sábados 10:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.

Winter/Spring FREE English Classes. BEGINNER LEVELS ONLY

- Hartford Public Library, Downtown, 500 Main Street
- Weekday Classes begin January 21, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Saturday classes begin February 8, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Students can register for both weekday and Saturday sessions. Separate registration required for each program.
- Registration is required. REGISTER IN PERSON! Wednesdays, Thursdays, or Saturdays 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Correction

The Martin Luther King Day events published in last week's edition of the *Hartford News* were incorrect. An article from two years ago was incorrectly used. We apologize for the error and any confusion it may have caused.

Stay Classy Hartford

Continued from page 2

of dollars paid to the outsourced company hired to do the work. Said leader also made a move to prevent Bermudez from having the office



NOW OPEN!!! Island LK Furniture

582 Park Street, Hartford
(Across from Pelican Tattoo)
860-316-5154

LOW, LOW PRICES

Living Room Sets, Dining Room Sets, Mattress Sets, Sofas, Table & Chair Sets, Rugs, End Tables & More!

PLUS! Purses, Jewelry, Shoes & More

recently vacated by her former colleague Deutsch, who had offered it to her before he departed. Sources say that the office was promised to an incoming freshman Democratic councilor in exchange for a vote on an upcoming matter. Back room deals are alive and well here in Tinytown. Just another way to undermine the two-person "opposition" on the road to rendering them completely politically impotent.

All of this is a shot by the ruling party heard 'round the city, and should be a warning to every concerned resident of Hartford. If things don't change at 550 Main, and fast, you can consider it a declaration of war on diversity of thought, opinion, and intelligent discourse. As some have already said, these actions in Hartford reek of the high-handed moves by the Republican majority Senate in Washington to undercut the ability of their Democrat counterparts to do what is best for the people of our country. Looks like the same damn thing is happening here, and it sure isn't what's best for the people of our city.

Bootleggers Bash at CHS Friday

This Friday, January 17, the Connecticut Historical Society (CHS), One Elizabeth Street, Hartford will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Prohibition with a party featuring live jazz music, dancing, and, of course, cocktails from 7 - 9 pm! Congress passed the National Prohibition Act in 1919, outlawing the manufacture and sale of liquor. The act was repealed in 1933.

Come dressed in your best 1920s style, and you might win a prize for best costume. No 1920s party is complete without dancing, but don't worry if you don't know how to do the Charleston – we're partnering with Hartford Underground Vintage Dance Group to provide tutorials in how to cut a rug like a flapper.

And you'll have a chance to sample some of Connecticut's finest home-grown spirits and liqueurs with Hartford Flavor Company, Litchfield Distillery, Westford Hill Distillers, and Fifth State Distillery on hand to offer tastings.

There'll even be a pop-up exhibit of "flapper" dresses from our collection on display. Live music provided by members of the New England Jazz Ensemble.

\$20 for CHS members, \$25 for non-members. Cocktails and refreshments included. Guests must be 21 or older. Advance tickets can be purchased at the door. Contact Natalie Belanger with any questions at (860) 236-5621 x289, or email Natalie_Belanger@chs.org.

The City's Tree Advisory Commission along with the City Forester has been busy creating the foundation on which Hartford can manage its forest. And it does need managing. We keep hearing that only half the land in Hartford is privately owned in reference to our long-term struggle to increase the tax base. But it also significantly affects the ability to maintain or increase our tree canopy. The City's goal is to plant 1500 trees a year for a decade to maintain the existing tree canopy as many of our trees have reached the end of their lifespan. Therefore, half of the planting and maintenance will have to be provided by private owners. Benefits to planting trees on private property include; lower energy bills, increased property value, and controlling stormwater runoff by capturing and storing rainfall in the canopy. With our new weather pattern of intense rainfall, this will become even more critical. What else should you know about planting trees on private property? Trees planted on private property can be smaller than those planted in parks and along rights of way, so the cost per tree can be substantially less than planting large trees. Smaller trees can be more easily transported, and they require less labor. Private property trees can be less constrained by utility lines and streets and sidewalks than those on rights of way.

Hartford has had many successful

tree planting events in the past 15 years. KNOX's "Trees for Hartford Neighborhoods" partnered with NRZs and other community groups over several years to plant numerous trees. Mark Fisher helped organize property owners on

Ortiz planted pear trees along the I-84 exit and entrance ramps on Sisson Avenue, and planted some trees by the fire station nearby.

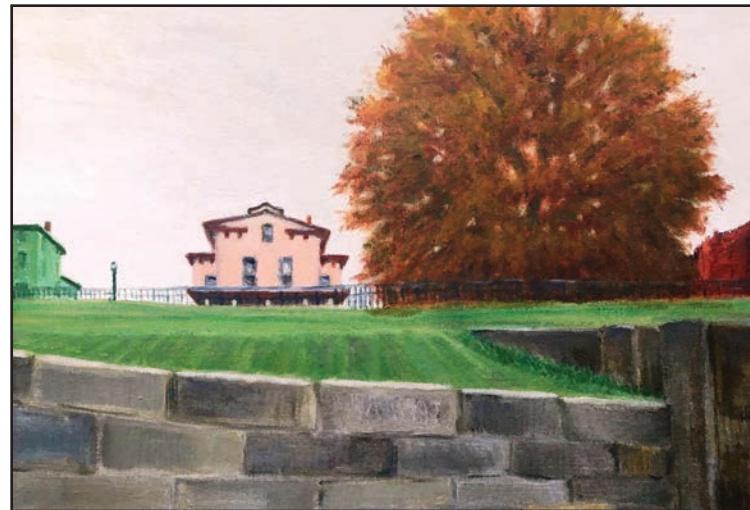
Henry Hester has been planting trees all over the north end. He and Denise Best worked with the Upper

Fortunately, Knox was there to tell people about the best trees to pick for their yards. When choosing the location, consider how you can get the protection from the sun or wind, and where a tree's roots and canopy will help lessen the impact from rainfall. About six years ago in the CSS Con NRZ, Ken Kahn was motivated to organize a tree planting effort due to the removal of a beautiful, mature beech tree. It had left a large area open and an adjacent apartment building no longer benefited from the shade nor was screened from public view. He also noted five large trees along Charter Oak Place which most likely wouldn't be around too much longer. With Knox's help and CSS Con's stipend for the maintenance, Ken began to seek out neighbors and property owners in the neighborhood that would agree to the plantings on their property as well as agreeing to water them. Again, Knox assisted with selecting locations and specific trees that would be most suitable. It took about three months of effort to plan the plantings. In the fall, with the City's help, about 80 trees were planted over two days. They've had a very good survival rate.

This neighborhood street-by-street model works really well. It was very successful and can be used in your neighborhood. If you want more information please contact Jack Hale at 860-371-8026 or email him at Jack.Hale@comcast.net.

Planting Trees on Private Property

COMMENTARY BY DONNA SWARR



A copper beech tree on Charter Oak Place (Ken Kahn painting)

Sherman Street in 2004. He went door-to-door and contacted apartment building's property owners directly to get signatures and raise interest. The Ravi gas station on the corner of Farmington Avenue got in board, as did the Clemens Place buildings. Electrical wires, gas lines, etc. needed to be kept in mind when selecting the types of trees and locations. Hartford Seminary planted several large trees, while some yards planted smaller, flowering fruit trees. Three to four years later another group led by Charlie

Albany NRZ and Charmaine Craig at Knox in 2008 to plant trees along Deerfield Avenue and again in 2010 on Milford Street, and later along Adams Street—some along the street and some in yards. Many residents had concerns about tree size. Henry said that the most important consideration when approaching people is educating them about trees, how to select one, maintain it, and plant it in the right place for the most benefits. Tree needs to be considered; how wide will the branches grow?

APPLY NOW!



**Applications open through
January 31, 2020.**

www.chooseCREC.org

Do you have questions?

We're here
to help!

**CREC
WELCOME
CENTER**

1 Monday–Friday | 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

111 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

860-509-3700

schoolchoice@crec.org

Hablamos español.

News Briefs

Continued from page 1

can do so at the door. Easy to get there by CTtransit bus and walking distance from several Hartford neighborhoods. tinyurl.com/nightfallmovie.

Salsa Dancing Night at the Library January 21

On Tuesday, January 21, Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Hartford, will host a Winter Salsa Night from 6 pm - 7:30 pm. Stay warm this winter at our Sizzlin' Winter Salsa Dance Night! First time salsa dancer? Looking to freshen up on your salsa moves? We will be offering salsa lessons from 6-6:30 followed by a Salsa Dance Night from 6:30-7:30, hosted by Latin Jazz Band Agua Pa Chocolate.

Teen Science Cafe January 22

Are you in high school? Are you interested in science or engineering? What about FREE food? Then come to the Connecticut Science Center, 250 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, for its Teen Science Cafe on Wednesday, January 22, from 4-6 pm. The event will be hosted by the Science Center's Teen Advisory Council, a core group of teen leaders. Teen Science Cafés are for teens, by teens. Teen Science cafes showcase a STEM profession by bringing a guest speaker from the science community who speaks about what they do, and also helps to explain their career

by providing a hands-on activity. This Event Is FREE and pizza and snacks will be provided.

New Black History Exhibit at Dwight Library

Hartford Public Library's Dwight Branch, 7 New Park Avenue (corner of Park Street), Hartford, will open a new exhibit honoring African-American change-makers in Hartford's history on Thursday, January 23, from 5:30-7:30 pm. In 2017, Hartford area artists of all ages created portraits to represent these trailblazers. The exhibit is comprised of a selection of these portraits. The January 23 reception will include refreshments from neighborhood restaurants. The exhibit itself will run through February 28.

Operation Fuel's Ice House Event January 24 & 25

Come visit Connecticut's coolest attraction, the Operation Fuel Ice House presented by Eversource Energy on January 24-25 at the Old State House Grounds in Hartford. Don't miss this unique structure carved from 40,000 pounds of ice plus thermal imaging body heat photos, giveaways, food trucks, mascots, and more. Your suggested donation of \$5 will help Connecticut families and individuals with energy assistance. To go to www.operationfuel.org/ice for more information. Operation Fuel provides energy assistance year round throughout Connecticut to

Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts Now Recruiting

Boy Scouts Troop #2 Hartford is now recruiting boys ages 11 - 17 and Cub Scouts Pack #2 Hartford is now recruiting boys ages 7 - 10. Meeting's will be held the second and fourth Saturdays of the from 12noon - 2pm at the Salvation Army, 100 Nelson Street, Hartford. For more information and an application, please contact Cub & Boy Scouts Master Victor Luna, Jr. at 860-983-5629.

HAIL MARY

- 1) Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee blessed art thou from amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Hail Mary mother of God, pray for us now, and the hour of our death. Amen.
- 2) Ten Commandments was given to Moses, for us all from God the almighty.
 - 1) You shall have no other Gods but me
 - 2) You shall not make for yourself any idol, nor bow down to it or worship it.
 - 3) You shall not misuse the name of the lord your God
 - 4) You shall remember to keep the Sabbath day holy.
 - 5) Respect your father and mother.
 - 6) You must not commit murder.
 - 7) You must not commit adultery.
 - 8) You must not steal.
 - 9) You must not give false evidence against your neighbor
 - 10) You must not be envious of your neighbor's goods. You shall not be envious of his house nor his wife, nor anything that belongs to neighbor.

Universal Life Children's Church of Jesus Christ
The God is Good Ministries
Rev. Dr. Jewel M Ellison



lower-income working families and individuals, the elderly, and disabled individuals who are in a financial crisis. Currently more than 400,000 Connecticut households can't afford their energy bills, which are among the highest in the nation.

Rapid Fire Double Dutch Competition January 25

The JADHA Foundation/CT Double Dutch will host a Rapid Fire Double Dutch Jump-Rope Competition on Saturday, January 25. Check-in begins at 11 am; the competition will start at 12:30 pm. The event will be held at the Wilson Gray YMCA Youth and Family Center, 444 Albany Avenue, Hartford. Registration fees are \$10 for unattached teams; \$15 twin speed and novice teams; \$20 single and double teams; \$15 for unattached jumpers (Open Division/College); and \$15 for unattached jumpers (Old School/Seasoned 30 & up). For more information, call Lady Carrie McCrory, 860-424-2971 or email Mrsccarriem@gmail.com. The competition is part of the JADHA Foundation's effort to revive the sport of Double Dutch in Hartford. The city was once home of several world champions.

WECA Meets January 28

The West End Civic Association (WECA) will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 28, from 6 - 8 pm at Hartford Seminary, 77 Sherman Street, Hartford. State Representative Matt Ritter will be the guest speaker and will discuss legislative initiative impacting the neighborhood. Ritter will also field questions from the audience regarding local issues and concerns. Light Refreshments will be served.

City Tax Amnesty Ends January 31

The City of Hartford has announced a Fee Relief Program for delinquent personal property and motor vehicle taxes, which will run through Jan. 31, 2020. During the Program, any taxpayer with outstanding delinquent personal property or motor vehicle tax bills will have all unpaid collection fees waived, as long as the outstanding tax and interest are paid in full. When the Program is not in effect,

Health & Homelessness

Continued from page 1

towns' populations were shrinking, ours grew. We gained a lot more residents and families, due to the excellent school system. So, as a physician, I felt that it was time to move to a bigger patient by making the State of Connecticut my patient." Years of inpatient, outpatient, and ICU work at hospitals gave him one particularly deep insight. "When things go wrong in our lives the entire quality of life is affected. Many ICU patients are there because of an illness in our society-- something wrong with our society-- and their symptoms reflect that illness."

As an example, he spoke of a homeless patient who presented at the hospital one winter. The man had developed frostbite which had resulted in the amputation of some finger and toes. While hospitalized, he suffered a heart attack and required major surgery. He was hospitalized for many weeks and the cost of patient management to the State's taxpayers was in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, which Anwar estimates would have been enough to house more than 100 people experiencing homelessness. "Many of these people are frequent visitors to emergency rooms, with symptoms such as chest pain and respiratory problems. They have them because of being homeless." Cardiograms, echocardiograms, and

In My Opinion

Continued from page 2

with both. But perhaps surprisingly, the police department's emphasis on the latter, the so-called productivity stats, is a much greater cause for concern.

"Sergeants, lieutenants, captains and inspectors feel intense pressure to produce ever better stats. To some extent this can be good. Police are paid to work. But the pressure to produce more with less is as overwhelming as it is unrealistic. Mind you, the orders never come from above to just make numbers up, but when commanding officers talk about 'productivity,' the rank-and-file hear 'quotas.'

"I'd love it if I always had enough good C's [criminal citations], but I need numbers,' one officer told me, 'And if I don't have enough stats and Compstat is coming up, I don't care if they're bulls—. I'll take whatever the f— I can get!' In a world where 'better stats' and 'more stats' are synonymous, the tail is wagging the dog. And police are nothing if not creative in finding ways to please their bosses.

"When a \$2,000 stolen laptop model can be found on eBay for less than \$1,000, a felony larceny might be reclassified as a misdemeanor and all but disappear from

Mike McGarry

Continued from page 2

figures.

In just an hour, all was completed. Greens will mulch blueberries and hay will cover the turned-over soil at the Niles Street Garden. And the recently repainted and re-habbed creche figures are resting safe and sound under cover until next Christmas.

The Knights of Columbus is an

international organization that has, like many civic service organizations, a role in the church and a role in the community, the state, the nation and throughout the world. The Cathedral Knights mainly serve the parish and the Asylum Hill/West End neighborhoods. Recently, with support from the state organization, 200 winter coats were distributed to needy local kids. The Knights also participated in the First Night festivities with refreshments, music and an "Irish Heritage" pop-up museum.

At the Connecticut Flower Show (February 20-23) the Knights will have a large exhibit with tours of the cathedral as this year's theme. Anyone interested in these tours should contact the cathedral directly for dates and times. Call 860-249-8431.

CAT scans are expensive tests, which means we're spending a lot of State resources. He adds that "If the homeless patient with a medical issue also has a psychological issue", then the medicine will not be effective because that person is not in a safe space. We cannot achieve the health of the individual if they cannot afford medicines, can't access healthy food, and can't stay warm. In that case, all our training is ineffective. As a society, we must ask ourselves: 'What are our values?"

To that end, Senator Saud Anwar is a man with a mission—a lofty one, to be sure, and it won't come easy. By the year 2030 (or sooner, if possible), he wants to see Connecticut become the first "right-to-housing" state in the nation. A state where no one need live outside under a bridge, sleep on church steps, in city parks, or abandoned cars and houses. He envisions a society where all can be safely and stably housed, which has been shown many times over to have a direct and positive effect on a person's physical, mental, and emotional health. He estimates that such a bold move would save Connecticut millions of dollars a year, and in addition would contribute to preventing people from falling through the cracks. A happier, healthier, and more productive population for Connecticut.

the stats. Or say a tourist reports a robbery but the police, knowing she's on the next flight back to Germany, record her loss as lost property.

"The problem with fudging crime numbers for political gain is that you can't stop. You have to do it every year just to stay even. Eventually you'll get promoted and transferred, if you're lucky, leaving your more honest and naïve replacement to deal with surprisingly bad crime numbers."

Read more at No Sellout. <https://hendu39.wordpress.com/2020/01/11/juking-the-stats-crime-in-Hartford/>

El Informativo Latino

Demócratas piden a Trump más fondos para Puerto Rico por terremotos

El senador Bernie Sanders y otros legisladores demócratas pidieron al presidente de Estados Unidos, Donald Trump, que declare situación de desastre para destinar más fondos a Puerto Rico por la serie de terremotos que este territorio estadounidense está padeciendo.

Enviaron una carta al presidente pidiendo que apruebe inmediatamente la solicitud de declaración de desastre.

Desde el 28 de diciembre, cientos de temblores han sacudido a esta isla caribeña y han puesto en ascuas a una población que apenas se recupera del desastre que dejaron en 2017 dos huracanes seguidos.

"En los últimos días, los sismos han costado millones en daños, destruyeron cientos de casas, causaron amplios apagones y forzaron a los residentes a dormir en refugios sin techo por el miedo a quedar enterrados en sus casas por otro terremoto", escribieron los legisladores en una carta a Trump.

En ella, Sanders y las representantes Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez y

Nydia Velázquez pidieron al presidente "que apruebe inmediatamente la solicitud de declaración

de desastre hecha por el gobierno de Puerto Rico" para responder a "la crisis humanitaria" en la isla.



Las Mas Caliente
La Diferente Radio

WILFREDO AYALA: General Manager
Tel: 860-796-4293
563 Franklin Avenue, Hartford, CT
LadiferenteRadio@gmail.com
www.ladiferenteradio.com

HOME APPLIANCES AT DISCOUNT PRICES!!

REFRIGERATORS • STOVES • DISH WASHERS • MICROWAVES • WASHERS • DRYERS



Ask for Specials
Save 40% on
scratched &
dented items

No Credit Needed
90-DAY PAYMENT OPTION

A+ Appliances

122K Park Avenue
East Hartford CT 06108
860-308-2770

or

860-929-8105

www.warehouseappliancesplus.com

Hablamos Espanol



New Furniture Store on Park Street

Island LK Furniture is now open at 582 Park Street, across from Pelican Tattoo, in Hartford's Frog Hollow neighborhood. The store sells a wide variety of furniture at discount prices, including bed sets, living room sets, table and chair sets, mattresses and box-springs, end tables, area rugs and more. The store also has a selection of purses, shoes and jewelry.

Zero Waste or Zero Strategy?

Continued from page 2

formance of Germany, instead of disposing some 2.3 million tons per year (TPY), we would only need capacity for 1 million TPY. While acknowledging that achieving this performance in Connecticut would be a real challenge, it is an option that is worth more consideration.

MIRA is under contract to serve member towns for an additional seven years. This could provide adequate time to implement programs to drive waste reduction and increase recycling. There are alternative technologies that are cleaner than simply burning trash; that can produce a range of transportation fuels or chemical feedstocks with greater value than electricity; and that can be added incrementally to

better match capacity with the disposal requirements. These technologies tend to be characterized as "not ready for prime time." But that assessment is based on the assumption that we need a facility that could handle 720,000 TPY of raw waste with little or no diversion of organic wastes. Plans could be developed to gradually wind down the current facility and implement zero waste strategies. We could transition to a system based on smaller, modular facilities with significantly reduced environmental impacts. A more distributed system of smaller facilities would also reduce the amount of truck traffic and their associated diesel emissions.

This will require leadership. But do not expect action in the upcoming legislative session. Lawmakers are unlikely to muddy their debate over tolls with a request to fund a trash plant or consider an innovative waste strategy. Besides, there is no political reward for making residents face up to their responsibility for safe disposal of municipal waste. And the same environmentalists are currently advocating for landfill disposal in Hartford and protesting against landfill disposal in Putnam.

A robust zero waste strategy will require advocates willing to put as much energy into arguing for what we do want as we are willing to invest in protesting what we do not want.

If you want to learn how you can help, the Hartford Solid Waste Task Force meets the second Thursday of the month, in City Council chambers at 4:00 p.m.

LIQUOR PERMIT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

This is to give notice that I,

JUAN R. BRITO JR
54 NEW PARK AVE FL 3
HARTFORD, CT 06106-2122

Have filed an application placarded 01/14/2020 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a GROCERY BEER PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at 152 FRANKLIN AVE., HARTFORD CT 06114-1332.

The business will be owned by:
EL PATIO GROCERIES DELI, INC

Objections must be filed by:
02-25-2020

JUAN R BRITO JR

CAPITOL REGION

All bid notices for the Capitol Region Purchasing Council are available at <https://crcog.bonfirehub.com/>. If you have any questions, please contact the office of the CRPC 860-724-4292, or e-mail crcpcstaff@crcog.org. The towns reserve the right to reject any or all bids, or any part of any or all bids, if such action is deemed to be in the best interest of the towns.

The Capitol Region Purchasing Council

REGIÓN DEL CAPITOLIO

Todos los avisos de licitación para el Consejo de Compras de la Región del Capitolio están disponibles en <https://crcog.bonfirehub.com/>. Si tiene alguna pregunta, comuníquese con la oficina del CRPC 860-724-4292 o envíe un correo electrónico a crcpcstaff@crcog.org. Las ciudades se reservan el derecho de rechazar cualquiera o todas las ofertas, o parte de cualquiera o todas las ofertas, si dicha acción se considera que es lo mejor para los pueblos.

El Consejo de Compras de la Región del Capitolio